

**POLICY**

It is the policy of the Michigan Department of Human Services Bureau of Juvenile Justice (BJJ) that the treatment needs of youths are identified and prioritized.

**PURPOSE**

This policy ensures a youth's priority strengths and needs are determined through a systematic review. This policy is only applicable in those situations where a strengths/needs assessment was not completed prior to placement.

**DEFINITIONS**

See JRG, JJ Residential Glossary.

**RESPONSIBLE  
STAFF**

Designated in the facility standard operating procedure.

**PROCEDURE**

Each facility is required to develop and implement standard operating procedures (SOPs) relative to the process for conducting a strengths/needs assessment. At a minimum, these SOPs must contain the following requirements:

**Timeframe**

Designated staff working with treatment team members:

- Conduct an evaluation of the youth and family to determine the treatment needs.
- The strengths/needs assessment is completed on the JJIS within twenty-five (25) calendar days of the youth's admission to the program and prior to the development of the youth's ITP.

**Domain Areas**

The designated staff working with treatment team members collects data from various sources pertaining to the following domain areas:

- Family relationships.
- Emotional stability.
- Substance abuse.

- Social relations.
- Education.
- Victimization.
- Sexuality.
- Life skills/functional independence.
- Employment.
- Health care/hygiene.
- After care living situation.
- Needs not otherwise addressed.

**Information to  
Treatment Team**

The data collected through completion of the strengths/needs assessment is the basis for the generation of an effective and meaningful plan of treatment.

The designated staff presents a summation of the assessment to the treatment team members.

**Re-Assessment**

The strengths/needs assessment is an on-going document that must be updated quarterly in JJIS, or revised as various assessments, screenings, and interviews reveal new strengths, needs, and risk factors.

**AUTHORITY**

Social Welfare Act, MCL 400.115a(1)(l)